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# The Question Bridge and Multidisciplinary Education: Building an Innovative Partnership

Karen Derksen

*Winthrop University*, [derksenk@winthrop.edu](mailto:derksenk@winthrop.edu)

Duane Neff

*Winthrop University*, [neffd@winthrop.edu](mailto:neffd@winthrop.edu)

Wendy Sellers

*Winthrop University*, [sellersw@winthrop.edu](mailto:sellersw@winthrop.edu)

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# QUESTION BRIDGE: BLACK MALES

## **The Question Bridge and Multidisciplinary Education: Building an Innovative Partnership**

Karen Derksen, Director - Winthrop University Galleries

Duane Neff, Assistant Professor - Department of Social Work

Wendy Sellers, Associate Professor - Department of Social Work



## Presentation Goals

- Explain the history and development of *Question Bridge: Black Males* project
- Discuss meaningful ways to build interdisciplinary collaboration on campus
- Explore ways to use *Question Bridge: Black Males* project in the classroom





The mission of the Winthrop University Galleries is to inform and enrich the lives of Winthrop students, faculty, and staff, as well as regional audiences, through the presentation of exhibitions and educational programs that celebrate artistic achievement. WUG promotes academic excellence and human understanding through visual art and design within the learning environment of a distinctive public comprehensive university.

# History and Development

## WINTHROP UNIVERSITY GALLERIES

- Role and mission
- Purpose of exhibitions and programs like *Question Bridge: Black Males*
- Resource for faculty
- Spark meaningful conversation and engage a wider audience



# History and Development

## *QUESTION BRIDGE: BLACK MALES PROJECT*

- A unique opportunity – collaborative and multidisciplinary
- Five parts:
  - EXHIBITION – video installation in Elizabeth Dunlap Patrick Gallery
  - INTERACTIVE WEBSITE & APP – questionbridge.com iTunes or Google Play
  - EDUCATION CURRICULUM
  - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – BLUEPRINT ROUNDTABLE <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xZc51eAVISY>





# History and Development

BLUEPRINT ROUNDTABLE - Tuesday, Oct. 7 - 7 p.m. #QuestionBridge #qbbblueprint

- **Partners:** John C. West Forum on Politics and Policy, Minor in African American Studies, DiGiorgio Student Union, Office of Diversity and Student Engagement
- **Moderator:** Dr. Adolphus Belk, Professor of Political Science, Director of African American Studies, Winthrop

- **Panelists:**  
 Rudy Currence - Singer-songwriter, musician  
 Joshua Dantzler – South Pointe high school student  
 Kambrell Garvin '13 - 6th grade science teacher  
 Timothy Hopkins '83, '85, '00 - Board of Trustees member, Winthrop  
 Morenga Hunt - Adjunct Faculty, Arts Administration, Winthrop  
 Willis Lewis - Associate Professor of Economics, Winthrop  
 Ron Nelson Jr. - Graduate student, Chemistry, Wake Forest  
 Saani Perry – Undergraduate student, Education, Winthrop  
 Randy Worthy – Undergraduate student, Business, Winthrop





# Multidisciplinary Collaboration

- TIME & RESOURCES
  - Time to collaborate
  - Language & jargon
  - Experimenting with new modes of disseminating information
- RIGHT PEOPLE
  - Goodness of fit
  - Stepping outside of our disciplines/specific worldviews
  - Exercise social power



# Multidisciplinary Collaboration

- RIGHT DEPARTMENTS
  - Departmental support
  - “Service” rather than “Research”
- RIGHT POLICIES
  - Fostering supportive campus climate
  - Collaborative priorities & goals
- SUFFICIENT RESOURCES
  - Incentives to conduct this work
  - Access to potential collaborators





## Implications For The Classroom

- Use of interactive website: <http://questionbridge.com/conversations>
- Exploration of social issues: <http://questionbridge.com/conversations/timecloud>
- Application to diverse populations: <http://questionbridge.com/conversations/timecloud#profiles>
- Contrast of regional differences: <http://questionbridge.com/conversations/map>

# Implications For The Classroom

UNIVERSITY LEARNING COMPETENCY	CLASSROOM APPLICATION
WINTHROP GRADUATES THINK CRITICALLY AND SOLVE PROBLEMS	ANALYSIS OF CONTENT TO SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS
WINTHROP GRADUATES ARE PERSONALLY AND SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE	CONNECTION OF CONTENT WITH OWN LIFE EXPERIENCES
WINTHROP GRADUATES UNDERSTAND THE INTERCONNECTED NATURE OF THE WORLD AND THE TIME IN WHICH THEY LIVE	INTEGRATION OF DIVERSE TOPICS AND VULNERABLE POPULATIONS THROUGH WEBSITE EXPLORATION
WINTHROP GRADUATES COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY	ENCOURAGEMENT OF MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS AND SUSTAINABLE DIALOGUE





# Implications For The Classroom

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What topics of the question bridge content were of most interest to you? Why?
2. What parts of the content were different from what you have heard/been told during your lifetime? Similar?
3. To what extent does the content differ from your own life experiences? In what ways is it similar?
4. What question would you like to ask? How might you find out answers to your question through meaningful dialogue?
5. How might the project fit with social welfare policy advocacy? How might you connect the project to other issues/populations?



# QUESTION BRIDGE: BLACK MALES

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION